

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1661

Introduced by Assembly Member Diaz

February 21, 2003

An act to amend Section 582 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1661, as introduced, Diaz. Public utilities: reports and records.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities. The commission may require public utilities to deliver to the commission, copies of various materials, including reports, books and records. Existing law requires the commission to make information available over the Internet.

This bill would provide that information made readily available to the commission at the public utility's Internet web site satisfies the requirements of delivering copies.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) It is in the interest of the people of the State of California
4 that the Public Utilities Commission refrain from requiring public
5 utilities to deliver paper copies of information to the commission
6 when the information can be made readily available in electronic
7 form.

1 (b) Allowing public utilities to make information requested by
2 the commission available in electronic form will help decrease the
3 costs of regulation by reducing the need to reproduce, on paper,
4 one or more copies of reports and other information for use by the
5 commission.

6 (c) Just as it is in the interest of Californians to obtain the
7 information they need from government quickly and easily via the
8 Internet, it is in the interest of the economy of this state, that the
9 businesses that fuel our economy be allowed to comply with
10 governmental regulation in the most efficient manner. Providing
11 requested information to regulatory agencies via the Internet
12 promotes this goal.

13 SEC. 2. Section 582 of the Public Utilities Code is amended
14 to read:

15 582. Whenever required by the commission, every public
16 utility shall deliver to the commission copies of any or all maps,
17 profiles, contracts, agreements, franchises, reports, books,
18 accounts, papers, and records in its possession or in any way
19 relating to its property or affecting its business, and also a complete
20 inventory of all its property in such form as the commission may
21 direct. *Information made readily available to the commission at*
22 *the public utility's Internet web site satisfies the requirements of*
23 *this section.*

